

Now that the invention has been described,

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An improved pressing apparatus for pressing a garment, said apparatus comprising:

a buck for receiving the garment to be pressed;

a collar mount for receiving a collar of the garment to be pressed;

a pair of retractable arms pneumatically mounted on a base of the pressing apparatus such that said arms can be extended to accommodate different sizes of garments and sleeve lengths;

a cuff mounting member positioned on each of said retractable arms for receiving and mounting long sleeves of the garment to be pressed;

a pair of clamping members operably positioned with respect to said cuff mounting member on each of said retractable arms for holding long sleeves of the garment to be pressed; and

a pair of sleeve engagement bars positioned on each of said retractable arms for receiving and holding short sleeves of the garment to be pressed, said sleeve engagement bars moving closer to one another to mount and to release the short sleeves of the garment to be pressed, said sleeve engagement bars moving apart from one another to hold the short sleeves of the garment to be pressed.

2. The pressing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said cuff mounting member further comprises a tear drop shape.

3. The pressing apparatus of Claim 2 wherein said tear drop shaped cuff mounting member having a fabric cover.

4. The pressing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein each of said clamping members having a soft foam cover.

5. The pressing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

pneumatically operated clamping members.

6. The pressing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

pneumatically operated sleeve engagement bars.

7. A mounting device for mounting a garment on a pressing system prior to performing a pressing operation on the garment, said device comprising:

a buck for receiving the garment to be pressed;

a pair of retractable arms mounted on a base of the pressing system such that said arms can be moved with respect to said buck; and

a sleeve gripping member mounted on each of said retractable arms whereby the mounting device may be used to press both long sleeve garments and short sleeve garments.

8. The mounting device of Claim 7 wherein said pair of retractable arms are attached to pneumatic cylinders whereby said pair of retractable arms can be selectively extended to accommodate garments of different sizes and sleeve lengths.

9. The mounting device of Claim 7 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

a cuff mounting member; and

a pair of clamping members wherein said clamping members are adapted to receive and hold long garment sleeves against said cuff mounting member.

10. The mounting device of Claim 9 wherein said cuff mounting member further comprises a tear drop shape.

11. The mounting device of Claim 10 wherein said tear drop shaped cuff mounting member having a fabric cover.

12. The mounting device of Claim 9 wherein each of said clamping members having a soft foam cover.

13. The mounting device of Claim 9 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

pneumatically operated clamping members.

14. The mounting device of Claim 7 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

a pair of sleeve engagement bars wherein said engagement bars are adapted to receive and hold short garment sleeves.

15. The mounting device of Claim 14 wherein each of said gripping members further comprising:

pneumatically operated sleeve engagement bars.

16. The mounting device of Claim 14 wherein each of said sleeve engagement bars having a curved end.

17. The mounting device of Claim 16 wherein each of said sleeve engagement bars having a textured tube.

18. A method for finishing a pair of sleeves on a garment comprising:
providing a buck for receiving the garment to be pressed;
providing a pair of retractable arms positioned on opposing sides of the buck;
providing a pair of sleeve gripping members mounted on each of said retractable arms;
mounting the garment to be pressed onto the buck;
mounting an end of each long sleeve of a long sleeve garment onto said sleeve gripping members;
gripping the end of each long sleeve on each of said sleeve gripping members;
extending said pair of retractable arms away from said buck;
flowing heated air and steam through the long sleeve garment during a finishing operation;

releasing the end of each long sleeve from each of said sleeve gripping members to unload the long sleeve garment;

mounting an end of each short sleeve of a short sleeve garment onto said sleeve gripping members;

gripping the end of each short sleeve on each of said sleeve gripping members;

extending said pair of retractable arms away from said buck;

flowing heated air and steam through the short sleeve garment during the finishing operation; and

releasing the end of each short sleeve from each of said sleeve gripping members to unload the short sleeve garment.

19. A method for finishing a pair of sleeves on a garment comprising:
providing a buck for receiving the garment to be pressed;
providing a pair of retractable arms positioned on opposing sides of the buck;
providing a pair of sleeve gripping members mounted on each of said retractable arms;

mounting the garment to be pressed onto the buck;

mounting an end of each long sleeve of a long sleeve garment onto a cuff mounting member positioned on each of said sleeve gripping members;

contracting a pair of clamping members positioned on each of said sleeve gripping members against the end of each long sleeve;

extending said pair of retractable arms away from said buck;

flowing heated air and steam through the long sleeve garment during a finishing operation;

extending said pair of clamping members away from the end of each long sleeve to unload the long sleeve garment;

mounting an end of each short sleeve of a short sleeve garment onto a pair of sleeve engagement bars positioned on each of said sleeve gripping members;

expanding each of said pair of sleeve engagement bars within the end of each short sleeve;

extending said pair of retractable arms away from said buck;

flowing heated air and steam through the short sleeve garment during the finishing operation; and

contracting said pair of sleeve engagement bars away from the end of each short sleeve to unload the short sleeve garment.

20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:

providing at least one pneumatic valve to operate said pair of retractable arms, said clamping members and said sleeve engagement bars.